

October 18, 2005

The regular meeting of Town Council was held on the above date at Town Hall, all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act having been satisfied:

Present were: Carl J. Smith, Mayor
Debra Hazen-Martin, Councilwoman
Jane Ellen Herron, Councilwoman
Buddy Howle, Councilman
Michael Perkis, Councilman

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Smith, followed by the invocation given by Councilwoman Herron. There were twenty private citizens present and one member of the media.

Mayor Smith duly administered the oath of office to Charles "Buddy" Howle.

The floor was opened for comments from the citizens. A film company asked Council for permission to shoot still photographs on the beach of a home (to be determined) around Station 32 on a day between October 26-31. There would be approximately six people present, and it would take around four hours. The company does have liability insurance. Council agreed this would be acceptable providing the homeowner agreed, the neighbors were notified, and that he contact Administrator Benke regarding the details and business license before beginning the photo shoot. John and Allyson Ferguson, 1918 Central, stated they are concerned about the rebuilding of the SCE&G substation next to their property. Mr. Ferguson stated electromagnetic fields have been linked to leukemia in children, and they have two young children. He wants the station to be moved to another location. Mary Blanchard of 2002 Central Ave. stated she is also concerned about it. Mayor Smith stated the substation has been there since the 1930's and that there is not another location on the island to place the substation. Two residents commented that they would like to see more off-leash hours in the evening when the dog ordinance is revised.

The minutes of the September 20, 2005 regular meeting were unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Howle, to approve the Resolution Supporting State Sales Tax to Fund Public Schools, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Howle, to approve the Resolution of Appreciation to Election Commission and Volunteers, carried unanimously.

General and New Correspondence – Letters were received from John Ferguson, who spoke earlier this evening, and Adrienne Otto regarding tree trimming on the beach paths.

Attorney's Report – There was no Attorney's report.

Administrator's Report, Administrator Benke. Approval has been received by S.C. Insurance Reserve Fund for the Maintenance Storage repairs. The final walk-through with the contractor and contract modifications will be finalized this week. Project completion is anticipated by December 2005.

Ways and Means Committee, Councilman Perkis. The August financial statement shows property and equipment purchase expenditures above budget, mainly because purchases were made at the beginning of the fiscal year. The notice to proceed for the new voice/data communications system has been completed. The system should be completely installed after Thanksgiving. The forecasted revenue for the millage levy of 186.1 is closed to what we budgeted.

Personnel Committee, Councilwoman Hazen-Martin. The Personnel Committee continues to meet to discuss the personnel handbook. The Planning Commission vacancies, and one expiring term on the Design Review Board will be discussed in executive session tonight.

Water and Sewer, Councilwoman Hazen-Martin. The water line project continues to be on schedule. The engineering expenses to complete the project were reviewed at the Committee meeting, and Council agreed to continue at the same level of engineering. The movement of the sewer line from property on Poe Avenue to the street is being considered, and Attorney Dodds is reviewing.

Building and Construction Committee, Councilman Howle. Monthly report rendered. Inspector Randy Robinson stated FEMA should respond in about one month concerning the CRS rating. We have received a good response from residents concerning flood facts mailout, and notice of the hurricane preparedness plan being available at Town Hall and on the website.

Fire Committee, Councilwoman Herron. Monthly report rendered. The Fire Department gave tours to 126 children and 48 parents in September. Captain McDaniel attended two meetings concerning the radio system. Firefighter Corbett completed and passed the Firefighter II class. The Fire Prevention Program last week was very successful.

Recreation Committee, Councilwoman Herron. Councilwomen Herron and Hazen-Martin attended a joint meeting with the Isle of Palms and Town of Mt. Pleasant regarding an East Cooper Senior Citizens' Center. Sullivan's Island Town Council needs to decide at what level, if any, Sullivan's Island will participate or contribute to the Center.

Real Estate Committee, Councilman Perkis for Councilman O'Neil. The Battery Logan protection issues will be discussed in executive session tonight. The amendment to the Design Review Board will have Second Reading tonight. The Tree Commission will look at standards for beach paths. The location of the stealth cell tower antenna needs to be decided. The water tower is not capable of housing the cell tower. Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilman Perkis, to place the cell tower behind the mound, carried unanimously.

Police Committee, Mayor Smith. Monthly report rendered.

Streets and Maintenance, Councilwoman Herron for Councilman Presson. The SCDOT has been requested to develop a solution for the problem of the left hand turn at Jasper Boulevard and SC703.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have Second Reading of An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 21, Section 108 (C) and (D) of the Zoning Ordinances for the Town of Sullivan’s Island, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin, seconded by Councilman Perkis, to amend An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 21, Section 108 (C) and (D) of the Zoning Ordinances for the Town of Sullivan’s Island, carried unanimously. The amendment to Section 21-108 (C) reads:

In making appointments to the Design Review Board, the Town Council shall make an attempt to maintain a balance of interest and skills on the Board by assessing the individual qualifications of the candidates including but not limited to their knowledge and demonstrated interest in architecture, history, archaeology, planning, urban or community design, landscape architecture, construction and restoration, or law. *Membership should include at least one state licensed design professional and a member at large.* All members should have knowledge and demonstrated interest in the design and preservation of buildings and places.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman Herron, to approve the amendment to An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 21, Section 108 (C) of the Zoning Ordinances for the Town of Sullivan’s Island, carried unanimously

Motion was made by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin, seconded by Councilwoman Herron, to have Second Reading, as amended, of An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 21, Section 108(C) and (D) of the Zoning Ordinances for the Town of Sullivan’s Island, carried unanimously. The Amendment reads:

Section 21-108(C): Composition of Board. In making appointments to the Design Review Board, the Town Council shall make an attempt to maintain a balance of interest and skills on the Board by assessing the individual qualifications of the candidates including but not limited to their knowledge and demonstrated interest in architecture, history, archaeology, planning, urban or community design, landscape architecture, construction and restoration, or law. *Membership should include at least one state licensed design professional and a member at large.* All members should have knowledge and demonstrated interest in the design and preservation of buildings and places.

Section 21-108(D): Appointment and terms. (1) The Design Review Board shall consists of *seven (7) members at least six (6) of whom must be residents and the seventh (7th) of whom may be a nonresident real property owner* of Sullivan’s Island appointed by Town Council. (The remainder of Section D remains the same).

Motion was made by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin, seconded by Councilman Howle, to suspend the rules to have Third Reading of An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 21, Section 108(C) and (D) of the Zoning Ordinances for the Town of Sullivan’s Island, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have Third Reading of An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 21, Section 108(C) and (D) of the Zoning Ordinances for the Town of Sullivan’s Island, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have First Reading, by title only, of An Ordinance to Amend Section 3-8 A(1), (2), and (3) “Dog Ordinance” of the Town of Sullivan’s Island Code of Ordinances, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Perkis, seconded by Councilman Howle, to have First Reading, by title only, of An Ordinance to Convey Battery Logan Property to Low Country Open Land Trust, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilman Howle, seconded by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin, to have First Reading, by title only, of An Ordinance to Convey Battery Logan Property to Federal Government, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin, seconded by Councilwoman Herron, to go into Executive Session for legal advice for personnel and litigation, carried unanimously. No action or votes were taken in executive session.

Upon returning from Executive Session, motion was made by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin, seconded by Councilwoman Herron, to reappoint Betty Harmon to the Design Review Board, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin, seconded by Councilman Howle, to reappoint Hal Currey, Bill Craver, and Alice O'Dell to the Planning Commission, carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Hazen-Martin, seconded by Councilwoman Herron, to appoint Larry Middaugh to the Planning Commission. Motion failed by a vote of 3-2.

An advertisement will be placed in the newspaper stating that letters of interest are being accepted until November 7, 2005 for serving on the Planning Commission and Design Review Board.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Herron, seconded by Councilman Howle, to adjourn, carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen McQueeney
Town Clerk